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AMDSEMENTS THIS EVENING

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway-Bonsmian Girl BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery-WEFT OF THE WISH-

BURTON'S THEATRE, Chambers street-Toobles-

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway-THE PRISON AND

METROFOLITAN THEATRE, Broadway-Equestrian

AMBRICAN MUSEUM-Afterneon-Living too Past-A Guest in Spice of Himeely. Evening-Iron King-Fairt Brant Never Won Pair Lady.

WECHANICS HALL, 472 Breadway.

BUCKLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, A39 Broadway-Buck

New York, Friday, January 12, 1855.

The steamship Star of the West, Captain E. W. Turner, will leave this port this afternoon, at 3 o'clock, for Punta

The New York HERALD-California edition ing all the latest news by mail and telegraph from all parts of the world, will be published at eleven o'clock thus morning. Agents will please send in their orders as early as possible.

The steamship Baltic, from Liverpool on the 29th all, arrived here yesterday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Her news is less important than might have been

No change has taken place at Sebastopol. Reinforcements, amounting in all to 18,000 men, had been received by the allies by December 18, and 5,000 Turks had landed at Eupatoria. The French had mounted their batteries on the third parallel. On the night of the 6th, the Russians evacuated the oubts at Balaklava, carrying with them eightyfive pieces of artillery. By the 15th the damage done by the rain to the allies' works had been re paired. It is said that the Russians have removed part of their artillery to the ships, twenty-two of which are equipped for sea. Sorties took place fre quently, but the Russians were generally repulsed. Sen. Kenschikoff was sick, and the command had devolved on Osten Sacken. The Czar's sons have seturned to St. Petersburg.

The Caar is concentrating troops round Moscow and on the Austrian frontier-looking, it is said, to the pessibility of a decided rupture with Austria. A ukase, dated St. Petersburg, denounces death se the punishment of murdering wounded soldiers

on the field of battle. The royal assent was given to the bill for the en-Estment of foreign soldiers on 23d December, after which both houses adjourned to 23d January. The

government is becoming decidedly unpopular. The Times attacks it with unmeasured severity, and a shange of ministry may be expected. On the 26th ult. the Emperor Napoleon the French Chambers with a speech, which will be peace, and calls for a loan of 500,000,000 france, found elsewhere. He holds out no prospect of was voted by the legislative body. The speech was well received by all parties, but de-

pressed the funds. A story is circulated to the effect that 15,000 volunteers are to be placed at the disposal of the allies by the government of Spain. Mr. Soulé was present at a sitting in the Chamber, in which the sale of Cuba was discussed. The S.a. mich government refused to admit the principle shat the flag covered the goods carried under it.

M. Usedom, a Prussisz envoy, had arrived in London, and speculation was rife on the subject of his mission. It was supposed by those best in-formed to be only to watch events. A conference was being held at Vienna, at the rooms of Lord land, (who was ill,) between the repre sentatives of the great Powers.

A correspondent of the Times, writing from Turio, gives an interesting review of the present the renewed activity of the revolutionists for the promotion of their objects. It is hinted that the States are full of Russian agents, who, it is alleged, stimulate the Mazzini party to action, and actually afford funds. We give the letter, with an im portant address from the National Assembly to the patriots, and the latest manifesto of Mazzini.

In commercial and financial affairs there had been no change of importance.

at Caracose, dated on 16th Dec., in which the same dismal picture of social disorganization, sum mary executions, and executive misrale, which long prevalled there, is again presented to Great preparations were being made to receive the newly elected President, Jose Tadeo Mo nages, in something like imperial state. The paper currency was depreciated to the lowest ebb, and the bills were being bought up by agents of the government. Cholera was devastating the eastern section of the country, and eight hundred persons had died in the city of Cumana in twenty days of

In the United States Senate yesterday, the Pacific Railroad bill and the bill authorizing the conruction of public buildings at Plattsburg, were seferred to committees. A bill providing for the cale of Rock Island was passed. The Congressional mpensation bill was debated by Mr. Gillette in the negative, and Mesers. Badger and Toucey in the affirmation, and laid aside. The Bounty Land bill and the Judic al Reform bill were also dis used and passed over, and after a short executive session the Senate adjourned.

In the House of Representatives the Know Nothing question excluded all other considerations. The went into com nittee at an early hour, nominally on the Pacific Railroad bill, when Mr. Chand ley, whig, from Philadelphia, a native of Cape Cod. led to the Know Nothing speech of Mr. Banks, of Massachusetts, asserting that the head of the R man Catholic church does not claim the right to interfere with one political affairs of any country, bot that of which he is the sovertien, and announce ing himself ready, with every other Roman Catholic, to reaist such an assumption whenever made. Mr. Cox, of Kentucky, expressed himself favorable to the doctrines of the Know Nothings, and also his selief in the vitality of the whig party. Mr. Perkins, of Louisiana, made some remarks in support of the propose d reform in the diplomatic and censuher system, which had a decided Know Nothing ter dency. Mr. Stephens, of Georgia, will prob-give his views on the inevitable subject to day.

The principal feature of importance in the Board of Aldermen last evening was the first message from Mayor Wood, which will be found in exter in our report of the proceedings, and is commented upon in another column. The Board, on motion of Alderman Howard. erman Howard, concurred by a vote of 12 to 10 with the resolution of the Councilmen so frequently before this body, to employ a number of lab \$1 a day to raze to the ground the ruins of the o'd sailding in the Park. A resolution for a special committee to consider the establishment of ragge shools for the children who are wandering through the streets, was adopted.

the ensuing year. Horace F. Clark was chosen President. He made a long speech on assuming the chair, in which he declared his determination to op-pose any attempt at fusion with the softs, unless they proposed better terms than they had hereto fore done. The committee was quite full, and they warmly applauded the sentiment of the speaker

More to-morrow. We understand that Gov. Clark has appointed Mr. Charles E. Birdsall, Police Justice, in place of Judge Stuart, resigned. Mr. R. will occupy the position until the let of next January, when the Justice chosen at the next election will fill the

vacancy.
Our legislators at Albany, although hardly yet warm in their scale, are vigorously at work fra laws specially for this city. Among the movements that were most prominent yesterday were the bills providing two additional justices of the Marine Court, and for breaking up the Consolidated Stage Company. The bill relative to property and money found upon persons arrested for publish elsewhere, is a measure that has long been needed, and the sooner it goes into practical operation the better. The bill to expedite the election of Gov. Clark's successor in the Senate passed the Assembly without opposition, although it elicited considerable debate touching the propriety of the Governor's course in the premises. The letter of our Albany correspondent gives some interesting information concerning matters at the capital, which

our readers will no doubt pay attention to. A meeting of shipowners and agents was held yes terday on 'Change, at which it was resolved unanimously that the wages of shipcarpenters and caulker along shore, should hereafter be \$2 50 per day, instead of \$3, and that of laborers \$1 50, instead of \$1 75.

Flour was in fair request yesterday, at unchanged prices, except for common State and Canadian brands, which were some easier to purchase at previous quotations. A cargo of common white Southern wheat sold at \$2 22\frac{1}{2}. Corn was about one cent per bushel firmer. Mess pork, after the news. ld 12 c. per barrel higher. There continu to be a good demand for pork, lard, beef and bacon, for export, both to Great Britain and France. Cotton was unaffected by the news, which was rather more favorable for that article than was ex pected. Before the news 200 to 300 bales were sold. the market closing firm.

The Question of Seward's Re-Election-Preparations - Importance of Defeating the Arch-Agitator.

As the time for testing the strength of W. H. Seward in our new Legislature approaches, the preparations and combinations on both sides for the impending struggle begin to develope themselves in their full proportions. We detect them in various things among the proceedings of the Assembly: in the manceuvrings of Thurlow Weed and his understrappers at Albany; in the continued presence of Seward himself at the Astor House, when, for decency's sake, he should be at his post in Washington; in the tendencies of the administion free soilers; in the outside Seward convention of Know Nothings at Schenectady; and in the extraordinary State Council of the regular Know Nothings in this city. All these movements and incidents tend to illustrate the importance attached to the coming contest between the new Seward disunion anti-slavery alliance on the one hand, and the opposition forces of the Union and American conservatives on the other.

The question of the re-election of the archagitator is a test question in several important aspects. It is a test between the popular sentiment of loyalty to the Constitution and the Union, and the new and seditious antislavery league for sectional agitation and disunion-it is a test between the conservative Webster and Fillmore whigs of the State, and the whippers in of Seward ; it is a test between the national democrats and the administration trading free soilers; and last, though not least, it is a test between the new American national party called the Know Nothings, and Seward and his Northern anti-slavery league. and his sectional and disunion programme for the Presidency.

The brunt of the battle devolves upon the Know Nothings. The issue is of greater importance to them than have been the results of all the recent elections put together. These ere but the preliminary skirmishes, establishing no very definite facts, except the workings of a great popular revolution, seeking a vent through the most available breaches in the old demoralized parties of the day. True, the Know Nothings in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Michigan and elsewhere, have effectually " crushed out" the Cabinet spoils party in the North-true, that in Massachusetts, and to some extent, also, in our late New York elections. this new American organization have demonstrated their hostility, and their power against the Seward Holy alliance, and the abolition societies in every shape and form ; but here, upon this question of Seward's re election, the Know Nothings are brought to a distinct, definite, and direct issue of victory or defeat, with the arch-agitator himself.

Hence this mustering of the reserves on both sides-hence the pipe laying of Weed and his assistants at Albany-hence this spurious Know Nothing Seward convention at Schenectadybence this protracted sojourn of Seward at the Astor House : and hence this extra gathering in State Council of the bong fide regular Know Nothings in this city. If Seward is defeated, his political existence is practically ended. He falls back into the political impotence of Martin Van Buren-his career is stopped-his sectional anti-slavery programme for the succession is demolished, and the coast is clear in the North. On the other hand, if Seward is re-elected, the Know Nothings will not only have their work to do over again here, but they will be materially damaged in the South, by their failure meantime to prove in New York their power and their national

principles. It is very probable that the success or defeat f Henry A. Wise in Virginia depends upon the success or overthrow of Seward at this present session of our Legislature. Virginia is the citadel—the Sebastopol of the Cabinet spoils democracy of the South. Defeat Wise s their candidate for Governor there, and they may be fairly considered as vanquished, from Virginia to Texas. The prestige which the Know Nothings will certainly achieve as a national party in the defeat of Seward, can hardly fail of the best results in Virginia; while, on the other hand, the triumph of Seward will unquestionably be used with effect by the Wise coalition in maintaining the false accusation that the Know Nothings of this State are in the league of the seditious demagogue of Auburn. To this end we may safely charge the spurious Know Nothing assemblage at Schenectady; and for the same object we are apprised that the emissaries of the administration and of Tammany Hall are counselling their partisans at Albany to aid in the re-election of Seward. The recent purchase of the Albany Argus for

had something to do with this important work of securing Seward's re-election.

Of all men in the United States W. H. Seward has been most active and instrumental in producing the causes and consequences of our recent party revulsions and revolutions. He it was who, in 1840 or '41, succeeded in inveigling Archbishop Hughes into the dirty squabbles of party politics on the school question. It was the smooth and treacherous devices of Seward that entrapped the Archbishop into the defilement of his clerical robes among the whiskey drinking Carbonari of Carroll Hall. An anti-Catholic reaction followed, and riots, and conflagrations, and bloodshed; and next there arose the Native American party of 1844. They carried this city, they controlled the elections in Philadelphia; and though in the Presidential canvass of that year they were overshadowed by the two great old national parties in the field, the nucleus of the American party of 1844 has continued intact. till we find it absorbed in the overwhelming popular strength of the Know Nothings. So. too, if Seward was identified with the cause of Archbishop Hughes, for the sake of the Catholic vote, in the movement of '44, he and his agents were no less active for the same object in behalf of the policy of Bedini on the Catho-

lic Church property question of the last year.

Tracing, then, directly home to W. H. Seward this demoralizing and corrupting practice of trading for the foreign and Catholic vote, which has broken up the late whig and democratic parties, shall we not also hold the prime conspirator himself responsible for his plots and treacheries against the public peace as a public man? As the instigator of the ruinous practice to the Irish Catholics of holding their suffrages as a balance of power in our elections, he richly deserves to be broken upon the wheel; but considering his earlier and later affiliations with the anti-slavery societies, and especially his present formidable disunion scheme of sectional agitation, hatched out among the late pie-bald conventions of Saratoga, Syracuse and Auburn, his case imperiously calls for his speedy execution.

The national whigs in the Legislature are few and feeble—the democracy are broken into fragments-the task devolves upon the new national and conservative party of the Know Nothings. They claim the strength-they know the importance of the issue and its consequences. Let them act accordingly. Let them defeat Seward, and not only will New York be redeemed, but Virginia will be regenerated, and the track, North and South, will thus be cleared of all obstructions for 1856. What say the Know Nothings?

Plans of Municipal Reform in the Legislature-We publish elsewhere three curious bills which have been recently introduced into the Legislature of New York. One, which is fathered by Mr. Stuyvesant, aims at amending the law regulating the Police Department by substituting for the present commissioners a new body of four men, named in the bill, and whose successors are hereafter to be elected by the people. The bill further declares that on 1st of July, 1855, the term of office of the present Chief of Police shall expire, and the validity of all appointments by him made shall be annulled; and that he shall be succeeded by another Chief of Police to be appointed by the commissioners. This is a fair sample of the style of legislation in fashion at Albany. Were the bill to become law, no conceivable benefit would be conferred upon the community. No reason can be brought forward to show that the new commissioners would answer better than the old ones, or that a Chief of Police who should serve only four years would perform his work better than one appointed during good behavior. On the contrary, the bill would aggravate the present crying evil of divided authority, by raising up a new power in the shape of four commissioners independent of the Mayor and of every one else; it would ensure to the city an inefficient ignorant Chief of Police ur years at least; and it w four gentlemen to fatten on the treasury at the rate of \$3,000 a year apiece. This, in truth, is the secret of the whole affair. The object of the bill is to supersede Mr. Matsell for the benefit of some one in the background, and to feed four anonymous cormorants. It is by no means the first attempt of the kind that has been made. It has long been the custom for disappointed applicants for office to carry their sorrows to Albany and to seek to repeal or amend the law so as to enable them obtain the place they failed to secure under its provisions. If Mr. Stuyvesant's bill succeeds, Mr. Matsell will be thrown overboard and a fresh man appointed. In July, 1859, the term of office of the latter will expire, and he will be superseded in his turn; whereupon his disappointed rivals will go to Albany and have the law altered once more so as to provide for them. Talk of the paternal government of the Czar! Give us a snug republic for caring for

idlers.
Then a Mr. Aitkin proposes quite seriously to "legalize primary elections in the city of New York;" and this at a time when the vice and the corruption and the scandal and the rottenness of the hideous sham called primary elections stink in the nostrils of every honest man. Mr. Aitkin's bill resembles Mr. Stuyvesant's in one respect; it is a scheme devised for personal purposes by corrupt individuals. Mr. Stuyvesant says, let us reform the police laws so that Matsell may be sent to the right about and that worthy fellow John or Thomas appointed in his stead, with four other worthy fellows as commissioners at \$3,000 a year apiece. Mr. Aitkin in the same way says: let ns legalize primary elections, so that the drunken vagabonds who have managed them hitherto shall be rescued from the insignificance into which they are falling, and the business of governing the country shall be kept in their hands and out of the reach of the respectable citizens who are trying to seize it. If Mr. Aitkin's scheme bears the palm for audacity and impudence, we must say Mr. Stuyvesant's is the shrewdest. The latter provides in a practical way for his friends-\$1,500 to one, \$3,000 to others, besides a comfortable room lighted and warmed Mr. Aitkin does not even beg a dollar for his ward committees. This, considering how they need it, was a grave omission. Let Mr. Aitkin reconsider his bill. Let him add a section appointing Captain Isaiah Rynders manager of primary elections on all sides, with a snug salary-would \$3,000 be too much !-from the State: and in lieu of dollars, let the members of ward committees be allowed so much rum and so much tobacco every time they sit. Thus amended the bill will be more consistent than

at present, and cannot fail to pass. Another bill of a different character to should by no mount, How the poor make to

amend the city charter has also been presented by Mr. Stuyvesant. In some respects it is an approach to the charter of 1830, and herein deserves commendation. For instance, it confers on the Mayor the power of appointing the heads of departments, a change of obvious expediency; but it preserves many complications growing out of the present charters which interfere with its simplicity and are likely to impair its usefulness. The proper bill to present at this moment is one which need not contain half as many sections as Mr. Stuyvesant's. It should make the city government as near as possible a counterpart of that of the Federal Union. Under it, the people should elect the Mayor and both boards of Common Council; all appointments should be made by the Mayor, subject to ratification by the Aldermen, and all subordinates should be responsible to him for the discharge of their duty. He should in like manner be responsible to the people; and to prevent this responsibility becoming nugatory, ample means should be provided by the act for his indictment, just as there are for the President's impeachment. Then the city would be properly governed. As it is, we have reason to be grateful to Mr. Wood for the attempt he is making to govern, in spite of the absurdities of the charter.

The New Mayor's First Annual Message Mayor Wood has entered upon the duties of his responsible office with an eye to business. His first annual message to the Common Council is before our readers. The style of the document will be regarded as extremely contemptible by young collegians; but in the estimation of our utilitarian, matter-of-fact fellow citizens, it will be looked upon in an entirely different light. It is a business paper, full of facts, figures and suggestions, striking straight home to the interests of our Corporation, the well being of our great and increasing city, and the pockets of our tax paying people.

From this message it appears that the actual amount of the permanent city debt has been reduced \$460,246 since January of last year; and that the total amount of the funded debt on the first day of the present year was \$1,154,000, which is an increase, as compared with the amount of debt of January 2, 1854, of \$204,000. The amount raised by taxation in the city, in 1854, was \$4,845,386 07. and the amount demanded for the present year is \$5,918,593 25, being only the moderate advance in onr city expenses and liabilities of \$1,073,207 18. The Mayor bluntly remarks, concerning this item, that "the expenditures have gradually and steadily increased, though it is well known that the character of our government has deteriorated." Perfectly true; and the deterioration has advanced pari passu with the corruptions, log rolling jobs, extravagances, and reckless wastefulness and negligence which have thus steadily, from year to year, enlarged our bills of taxation. The Mayor says the people of the city cannot realize that the real necessities of the Corporation require such large amounts of money as are annually expended. Nor does he believe it himself, which is a good thing, especially when followed up with the suggestion that a "close scrutiny of the various items composing the account of the disbursing officers will show that it is the undue, unnecessary, extraordinary outlays, without sufficient equivalent, that have swollen our taxes to their

present enormous amount." No doubt of it. But the "close scrutiny:" Are we to have it? Will the Common Council grant it? Doubtful. We fear that this "close scrutiny" will end with the reading of the Mayor's message. Still, we shall watch them, and do what we can to aid the Mayor at a very "close scrutiny" of the disbursements of the people's taxes. We entirely agree with Mr. Wood, that the smallest items of the tea room should be guarded as sacredly as the largest speculating contract. The step from a box of segars and a basket of wine to a haul of a few hundred thonsands, in a log-rolling job, is very natural and easy.

The Mayor suggests various reforms in the Street Department and in the City Inspector's department, well worthy of consideration. His recommendations regarding taxable property. the abolition of fees of Corporation officers, the charging of interest on deposits of the public funds, as also, his suggestion concerning the estimates and appropriations, the suspended sales for taxes and assessments, contracts, city railroads and omnibuses, abound in the raw materials for practical retrenchment and re-

The Mayor exhibits a becoming degree of solicitude concerning the "extortions and oppressions which, for many years, have been practised upon the emigrants coming to this port;" and calls attention to this subject in several propositions of amendment, eminently judicious and salutary. His remarks, also, upon the practice of many European governments, of shipping their paupers and criminals to the United States, and chiefly to this port, should be followed up by such legislation on the part of our Corporation, our Legislature, and Congress, as the subject imperiously demands. It is quite enough that this country should be universally esteemed as the asylum of the oppressed of all nations—as the and of refuge for the able hearts and willing hands that are borne down amidst the over populated despotisms of Europe; but when hose governments undertake to make this republic, and particularly this port of New York, place of banishment for their thieves, vagabonds of all kinds, cut-throats, and helpless paupers, they are committing an outrage upon American hospitality which should be resented with emphasis, promptness and decision.

Our police system appears next to have received the careful consideration of our industrious and active Mayor; and as his recommendations here comprehend a diminution of expenses and an extension of the sphere of active employment of the police, one would think the changes proposed might at least be adopted without much damage to the public interests. We concur in a spring charter election, with the view of separating our municipal politics from the outside party rubbish of the State elections. We are gratified to find the new Mayor, notwithstanding his political antecedents of democratic economy, in favor of the new Central Park. With regard to the proposed supplemental buildings to the City Hall, the new Mayor looks far ahead. When the business of Wall street is moved up to Canal street, then very likely our City Hall and its accessories will have to be transferred to Tompkins, Union or Madison square; but in the meantime the wants of the Corporation create such a delightful opening for a wholesale job, that our worthy Aldermen slip through their firgers. The public school expenses, the docks, cattle driving, the relief of Broadway, and 'she existing contracts for cleaning the streets, are severally touched upon, with some specific recommendations of amendment, argong the best which have been from any quarter suggested; and, upon the whole, this message proves that our new Mayor has entered upon his official duties with the fixed determination of serving his fellow-citizens to the very best of his abilities in the vast field for retrenchment and reform into which he has

been invited. If the Mayor is sustained in this good resolution; if our fellow-citizens see to it that the two boards do not lapse, as usual, from fair promises into imbecility and corruption, there is yet hope that, from being the worst governed, the filthiest, the most expensive and the shabbiest city in the Union, New York may yet become the cleanest, the safest, the healthiest and the most economical, the most orderly and the most beautiful, from the steady advances of improvement, retrenchment and reform. Let Mayor Wood go ahead and hold fast. The people will back him in all his good endeavors, and enable him at least to stand guard between the two boards and the city treasury.

MORE WORE FOR MARCY .- Several shipping houses in this city have for some time been engaged in procuring guano from Isle Aves, a small island situated in lat. 15, lon. 60 1-2, about 400 miles from the coast of Venezuela, 200 miles south of St. Thomas, and 150 miles west of Guadaloupe. This island contains a large quantity of guano, and several cargoes of it have been recently brought to this port. A few weeks since, while the crews of our vessels were engaged in securing their cargoes, they were driven away by an armed ship belonging to the government of Venezuela, and the island taken possession of by a body of soldiers. Now, the question is, to whom does this island belong? There is an island called Aves just off the coast of Venezuela, which undoubtedly belongs to that government; but the Isle Aves we refer to was formerly under the Danish flag, and has been claimed by the French. At all events, it is pretty certain that Venezuela has no just claim to it. Here is a chance for Mr Marcy; and as there probably is more guano on this little island than on the whole group of Gallipagos, it is certainly worth his attention. It would be well enough to settle the ownership, so that our shipmasters may know who to deal with.

THE LATEST NEWS

BY MAGNETIC AND PRINTING TELEGRAPHS.

Important from Washington.
RUSSIA AND THE UNITED STATES—JEALOUSY OF THE EUROPEAN POWERS, ETC.

Baron Meyendorf, the Russian Ambassador at Vienna. has communicated to the Russian Minister of this city a piece of information of the highest importance. As my business is simply to deal with facts, I shall not now

enter into lengthy discussion.

The Baron describes an interview he had with the Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria, in which he (Meyendorf) is requested to express to his Majesty the Char his congratulations upon the friendly feeling so generally manifested by the people of the United States for his im-

Baren Mevendorf continues : The present indepen dent stand of the United States is most graciously eccived by his master, the Czar, who hopes for a coninuance of it, as does also his Majesty of Austria. This I consider important—it is the secret of our gov

ernment's opposition to Clingman's resolution. The letter thus received has been read only by the President, all regard it in one light—as a friendly request from these Powers for non-interference on our part in the present war. What are the allies to think of Austria's ate treaty, when possessed of these particulars?

I have here a further secret to communicate:—

Upon the receipt in Europe of our recent formed treaty with Russia, a correspondence took place between France and England—this treaty and the United States being the subject-matter of consideration. A check to the grasping avarice of the United States was determined upon—a portion of the navy was immediately.

Lord Clarendon made public that France and England

Lord Clarendon made public that France and England had in store a something for the United States, after the receipt of unfavorable news from the East.
Our government has possession of these facts; and if

not shortly given to the public by the President, your correspondent will take upon himself the liberty of furnishing them to the HERALD

Henry A. Wise thinks his defeat a possible thing. The HERALD is to be held responsible in the event of his election proving unsuccessful, having misrepresented his position with the people, throughout—at least so he writes to his friends in this city.

A defalcation of one of our financial officers, under the present adminstration, to a large amount, is secretly red here as having been discovered a few days ince. The gentleman is a resident of one of our princi

CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE-HEALTH OF ME NORRIS- ILLNESS OF ME. WILLARD—THE KINNEY EXPEDITION—CONSULS RECOGNIZED.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11, 1855. The Senate confirmed, to-day, the following appoint ments:-Henry P. Whalen as Collector of the Port at Dunkirk, New York; Wm. R Hackley as District Atter ney of Florida; Daniel M. Bates as District Judge; and muel Dexter, of Maryland, as Marchal of Kausas Territory; and W. H. Barras as District Attorney of Oregon

erritory.

Mr. Norris is slowly improving, and strong hopes are ntertained of his final recovery.

Mr. Joseph Willard, one of the proprietors of Williard's otel, now lies in a critical condition, having been at-

tacked with severe spasms to-day.

The Union of this morning announces that the first vessel, with the Central American colonists, will sail from Baltimore on the 25th instant; the second a few days later, from Mobile; and the third from Brazos Santiago Seven hundred men go out in these vessels. Colonel Kinney will sail about the beginning of next mouth, either from New York or Philadelphia, in a first class

teamship.
The President has recognized Carl Edward Habricht as Consul for Sweden and Norway at New York, and Edward Smith Sagres as Council for the same Powers at

UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 11, 1820.

D. Ira Baher, H. C. Goodwin, Esqrs., and Hon. John J.
Tayler, of New York, were admitted at attorneys and
counsellors of this court to-day.

No. 40. Edward M. West, plaintiff in error, us. Joseph
Cochran. The argument was continued by Mr. Hill, for
the defendant in error, and by Mr. Blair, for the plaintiff in error. Adjourned till to-morrow, at 11 o'clock,
A. M.

The Massachusette Senatorship.

Tuesday next has been assigned, on the part of the Rouse of Representatives of this State, for the election of a United States Senator. Proceedings of the Maine Legislature.

AUGUSTA, (Me.,) Jan. 11, 1855. The Legislature of this State to-day elected Woodbury Davis, of Belfast, free soller, State Treasurer. Nathan

Richards, of Oldtown, a Morrill democrat, was chosen a member of the State Council, to fill the vacancy that

DRATH OF A MEMBER OF THE LEGISLATURE -ACCI-Bosros, Jan. 11, 1855.

George Conner, Esq., Representative to the Legislatur of this State from Beeton, died suddenly this morning of John Field, clerk in the store of A. A. Wellington, No. 23 The Know Mothing Conventions.
THE SPURIOUS ENOW NOTHINGS IN ALBANY-THE SECOND EDITION OF THE SCHENECTADY CONVEN-

ALRANY, Jan. 11, 1865.

The quiet, honest, sober city of Albauy, has been the scene, to-day, of no little excitement, growing out of the incursion of a number of bogus Know Nothings, the incursion of a number of bogus Know Nothings, who, it appears, came down by the late train last evening, and the early run this morning, from the con-vention at Schenestady, a notice of which I find in the HERALD just at hand.
It appears that these individuals have rese

read at Albany until after the election of United States. Senator has been disposed of, in the hope of inducing some of the Know Nothing opponents of Mr. Seward in the Legislature to believe that an extensive disorganizing movement exists, and thus giving them courage to break their connection with the "mysterious order, wand to return to their allegiance to the Weed and Seward dynasty. The plot is pretty well conceived, but it is a little too shallow for success. The trouble is that the persons forming the "convention," as it is called, of attempted and falled to obtain admission into the origi-nal lodges, or who stole inside for treacherous purposes, and suddenly left under the propulsive influence of the toe of Know Nothingiam, applied in fundamentum.

It will readily be seen that the original Simon Pures will have no dread of such a filmsy combination. I would observe, too, that the policy of the movement is very seriously questioned by the Albany rulers, and it is more than suspected that Mr. Weed will put a quietus upon it in a most peremptory manner. He believes that while rendering the genuine American party even more inveterate against the Champion of Canal Diggers, it will startle the "furriners," and induce them to re-gard the Auburn agitator as very little better than the event Hunder.

gard the Auburn agitator as very little better than the great Hindoo.

Among the delegates at Schenectady yesterday, was Swain, of the Times. He was specially despatched by Raymond, who it is currently believed is a "member in good standings" in the begus order, with instructions to-make a hard fight for the motion to adjourn to Albany. This motion, as you have already been advised by your telegraphic correspondent, met with much opposition from some Western delegates, who doubted its policy, and was once laid on the table. But at the late session last night it was again called up, and after a spicy debate, was adopted. Some of the Western representatives, however, declined attending the adjourned meeting, and signified their intention to leave for home. Mr. Cobb, of Syracuse, who is President of the convention, was very anxious to get through business, but the preliminaries are purposely delayed in order to keep the convention together as long as possible. The President and Secretaries made reports, but the Treasurer's was not forthcoming, in consequence, it was binted, of the "beggarly account" it would present. Swain is quite busy in the convention, and acts under instructions direct from headquarters. Mr. Raymond is very sanguine in the policy of the movement. It will be rather curious to observe what position the rusty philosopher of the Tribune will take, and to mark whether his bitter denunciations of Know Nothingism will extend so far as to include the bogus Sewardite order.

THE ENOW NOTHING CONVENTION AT SCHENECTADY.

THE ENOW NOTHING CONVENTION AT SCHENECTADY. The Know Nothing convention in session here has not, we have good reason to believe, transacted any business of importance as yet, and several of the members

have gone to Albany this afternoon, probably to consult

with their friends at the capital.

Interesting from Albany.

THE RECTION IN THE TWENTY-NINTH SENATE DISTRICT—LEGISLATIVE MEASURES FOR NEW YORK CITY—EMOW NOTHING MOVEMENTS, ETC. ALBANY, Jan. 11, 1855.

The daily sessions of both branches of the Legislature are quite short, averaging less than one hour and a half, including prayers. The members of the House, not yet having become sufficiently familiarized, move rather cautiously. To day the House passed the bill to expedite the Senstorial election in the Twenty-ninth district. hour, and agreed to, letter for letter as it fell from the pen of Mr. Odea, of Livingston. When the question was about to be taken to report the bill to the House, the Hor. Mr. Fitch, who bears, dignifiedly, the whole of Franklin county upon his shoulders in the House, rose to make a speech. It being his maiden effort, every eye turned upon him. He defended his Excellency, from the charge contained in some of the Knew Nothing papers, that he had delayed his resignation as Senator, and the issuing his preclamation for the election of a Senator to fill the vacancy. The honorable Speaker, very accurately reported the reasons which the newspapers had previously given in defence of the Governor, and convinced His Excellency's friends that legally and really the election could not have been ordered at an earlier day. Subsequently, on motion of Mr. Odell, the bill was passed, receiving 112 votes, with none in the negative. There will be no objections to its passage through the Senate. Notwithstanding every care has been taken so to form the bill as to permit the new Senator in his seat before the United States Senator question comes to a vote, it is secretly boasted that there is a flaw which will detain the final canvass and notification beyond the time anticipated of course Senators Whitney and Williams will in troduce amenaments of a positive character.

The New York delegation laid several matters of city importance before the House to-day. Mr. Stuyvesant, a bill to create an additional justice of the Marine Court. It is alleged that the increase of business in that court is so large that it is impossible for the present judges to dispense justice with such care, reflection and deliberation as is necessary in most cases.

Mr. Munday gave notice of a bill to repeal certain sections of an act entitled an act authorizing the formation of stage companies in the city of New York. It is anserted that the present consolidated company is a powerful monopoly. The only license which they pay the corporation is twenty dollars per stage, and this papers had previously given in defence of the Governor

or large companies in the city of New York. It is asserted that the present consolidated company is a powerful menopoly. The only license which they pay the corporation is twenty dollars per stage, and this license cannot be revoked or annulled, let the comequences be what they may, unless by a vote of two-thirds in both branches of the Council, which is next to an impossibility. The stages cut up the streets more than all o'her vehicles, and the small sam of twenty dollars, which cannot be increased under the present law is no renuneration to the city for the expense of repairing streets form up by them. No doubt the stage companies will send a delegation to the Legislature to defend their "legal rights," as they designate them. But Mr. Manday can keep out of the way of the comboses much casier than Jim Brady's friends from the "rural districts."

Mr. McLaughlin introduced a bill to provide for the payment of petty jurors in civil actions. He proposes to give each one dollar and fifty cents per day in addition to the twelve and a half cents now received, for the trial of every suit. This is a just proposition, though it is thought the lawyers will oppose it.

The resolution effered a day or two since by the Hon. Mr. Petty, instructing the judiciary committee to inquire into the expediency of re-tricting or annulling the naturalization laws, was called, up for consideration by that gentleman. Mr. Atken thought it was a matter which the Legislature had no right to medile with, as it legitimately belonged to Congress. All the power porsessed by the State Legislature is to limit the time a person shall reside in the State, county and town, before he can exercise the right of sutrage.

Mr. Petty again took the floor, and read two or three foolscap written pages with considerable fluency, presenting bis side with such convincing argument that immediately thereafter, on motion of Mr. Munday, the subject was laid on the table. The Know Nothings did not rully in the suport of the Hon. Mr. Petty. De they begin to show t

DEATH OF MES. PHILIP S. VAN RENSSELAER. ALBANY, Jan. 11, 1856.

The widow of Philip S. Van Rensselser, formerly Mayor of this city, died last evening, aged 59.

Later from Rio Janeiro. STATE OF THE MARKETS - SHIPPING INTELLIGENCE --NAVAL NEWS.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 11, 1855. By the arrival of the clipper ship Gray Eagle, we have dates from Rio de Janeiro to the 6th of December.

The total shipments of coffee for the month of November amounted to 176,400 bags, of which 22,450 bags were to New York and 10,000 to Baltimore. The quotations for flour are as follows —Western, \$22 a \$23; Baltimore, \$22 a \$22 50; Philadelphia, \$21 a \$22; Richmond, \$21 a The Gray Eagle left in port at Rio the ships Banshee

Kirkland, and indus, and the schooner Kent, for Solti-more; also the ships Mary Elizabeth, and Spirit of the Sea, from Boston; also the ship Simeon Draper, from New York for San Blas, repairing. In port also were the United States ships Independence, the flag ship of Com-modore Mervine, bound to the Pacific, and the Savannah the flag ship of Commodore Saiter.

Further from Havana.

Contumns, S. C., Jan. 10, 1856.
The New Orleans papers of Saturday last are receive and contain full details of the latest news from Havan The trial of Estampes alias Laconte was progressin

Dock square, was instantly killed by falling between the Chelses forry body and the tock while attempt ing in go He arknowledered that his surpose was to place him at the beautiful a retroition in the eastern part of

The hard shell committee held a meeting last with a Startegart Land to to that offices for the uses of the administration, has doubtless